

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4606

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS DUBLIN 0544

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, EI

SUBJ: IRISH PRESS TREATMENT OF KISSINGER SPEECH

REF: STATE 75989

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IRISH NEWSPAPERS HAVE GIVEN
KISSINGER " YEAR OF EUROPE" SPEECH WIDE BUT SPOTTY
FACTUAL COVERAGE. WITH ONE EXCEPTION, EDITORIAL
COMMENTARY IS WEAK. GOVT LEADERS HAVE NOT YET
COMMENTED. END SUMMARY.

2. THREE OF IRELAND'S FOUR MAJOR MORNING PAPERS GAVE
PROMINENT NEWS COVERAGE TO KISSINGER SPEECH. EXCEPTION
WAS PRO- FIANNA FAIL " IRISH PRESS," WHICH MISSED EVENT
ENTIRELY.
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3. EDITORIAL COMMENT IS STILL THIN AND MAY DEVELOP
FURTHER. PRO- GOVT " IRISH INDEPENDENT," COUNTRY'S
LARGEST NEWSPAPER, HAS THOUGHTFUL EDITORIAL WHICH NOTES
THAT KISSINGER'S APPEAL TO EUROPE WILL POSE DIFFICULT

PROBLEM FOR EC LEADERS. " TO APPEAL TO EUROPEAN
LEADERS TO AGREE UPON ' A CLEAR SET OF COMMON OBJECTIVES
...' IS TO SCRAPE SOME RAW NERVES, BECAUSE THE
EUROPEAN LEADERS HAVE NO COMMON POLICY TOWARDS AMERICA
AND DO NOT SEEM LIKELY TO REACH ONE IN THE NEAR FUTURE;
TO REFER TO '... BURDENS EQUALLY SHARED' IN DEFENCE
MATTERS MUST MAKE SOME EUROPEANS WINCE BECAUSE THEY
ARE HAVING TROUBLE KEEPING UP THEIR OWN MILITARY
ESTABLISHMENTS; WHILE TO PROMISE MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS
TO EUROPEAN UNITY WHILE AT THE SAME TIME EXPECTING
THESE ' TO BE MET IN THE SPIRIT OF RECIPROCITY' CONJURES
UP IMMEDIATELY THE PROBLEMS OF THE EUROPEAN FARM
POLICY OF THE (REVERSE) PREFERENCE SYSTEM..."

4. INDEPENDENT, PRESTIGIOUS " IRISH TIMES" RAN RESTON' S
ENTIRE COLUMN AND USED GOOD NEWS COVERAGE FROM " LONDON
TIMES" SERVICE. " IRISH TIMES" OWN EDITORIAL WRITER,
HOWEVER, COULD NOT MAKE UP HIS MIND WHAT TO SAY.
COMMENTATOR ACCEPTED THAT SOME OF KISSINGER' S POINTS
WERE VALID, BUT THEN SUGGESTED THAT SPEECH MAY HAVE BEEN
" DIVERSIONARY EXERCISE TO TURN PEOPLE' S ATTENTION AWAY
FROM WATERGATE..."

5. SO FAR, GOVT LEADERS HAVE NOT EXPRESSED OPINION ON
SPEECH. WE THINK THEY ARE LIKELY TO HAVE FAR BETTER GRASP
OF IT THAN MOST OF THEIR NEWSPAPERS.
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To: STATE INFO PARIS
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LONDON
ROME
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THE HAGUE
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